

F. W. HOWAY.

documents, whilst the latter contains, up to 1929, over thirty articles, book reviews, and some fifteen original journals. Surely a wonderful record of a completely-filled leisure in the long life of a busy business man. Naturally his fund of local information made him in demand as a speaker at historical gatherings and memorial exercises throughout the Pacific Northwest. When in 1916 Mr. J. B. Tyrrell was editing *David Thompson's Narrative* or the Champlain Society, he called Mr. Elliott into collaboration, and his luminous notes and geographical identifications furnished a clear light for every student who desired to follow intelligently, on a modern map, Thompson's various travels.

Modest and unassuming, Mr. Elliott left his work as it fell from his pen, but some six or seven years ago he gathered together into a bound volume which he called *Historical Addresses and Papers*, and distributed amongst his friends those items which he evidently thought of special value, including "The Land of the Kootenai," an address delivered in 1926 at Bonner's Ferry, Idaho; "Spokane House," "The Chinook Wind," and Richard ('Captain Johnny') Grant."

Mr. Elliott's thorough-going, scholarly work brought him rewards and recognition. In 1919 the University of Oregon conferred on him its Honorary Degree of Master of Arts, and in 1930 his Alma Mater, Amherst College, which had graduated him course in 1885 as a Bachelor of Arts, recognized his high standing as an historian by granting him its Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.). The British Columbia Historical Association in 1939 elected him an Honorary Life Member; and when across the Atlantic his scholarship was known and was recognized in his election as a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

So, Thompson Coit Elliott, B.A., M.A., D.Litt., F.R.Hist.S., with his well-earned honours, closed his earthly career at the ripe age of 80 years—a student and a hard worker in history, even to the last. I shall miss him as a true friend, whose kindly guiding hand was ever at my service.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.

F. W. HOWAY.

Vancouver Community College

Langara — Library

100 West 49th Avenue

Vancouver, British Columbia

V5Y 2Z6

THE DIARY OF ROBERT MELROSE.

Vancouver, British Columbia

ROYAL EMIGRANT'S ALMANACK

concerning

FIVE YEARS SERVITUDE

under the

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

on

VANCOUVER'S ISLAND

PART II.

JANUARY.

1854.

S. 1 Drouthy New Year.*

Mo. 2 Holiday given. Brig "Rose" arrived from San Francisco. Very wet day.

Tu. 3 Brig "Recovery" arrived from the Sandwich Islands.

We. 4 Tremendous hard frost.

Th. 5 Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed Bellview [ie San Juan] Island. Indians dropped work.

Fr. 6 More Indians started to work.

Sa. 7 Slight fall of snow. Barque "Fanny Major" arrived in Port.

S. 8 Rain.

Mo. 9 John Russel removed to the Farm. Rain.

Tu. 10 Brig "Rose" sailed Coal Mines. Signed a Petition to throw off Judge Cameron.¹

* [Footnote in original.] New Year's Day, a day above all days, for rioting in drunkenness, then what are we to expect of this young, but desperate Colony of ours; where dissipation is carried on to such extremities my readers will be expecting to find nothing in my Almanack, from Christmas, till past the New Year, but such a one drunk, and another drunk, and so on; how different is the scene, then what must I attribute the cause of all this, too, must I prescribe it to the good morals of the people; no! no! my friends, no such thing could be expected here; the grog-shops were drained of every sort of liquor, not a drop to be got for either love or money, had it been otherwise the case, there is no saying whether my small Almanack would have contained them or not; it would almost take a line of packet ships, running regular between here, and San Francisco to supply this Island with grog, so great a thirst prevails amongst its inhabitants.

(1) A petition to the Queen, which in effect asked for the removal of David Cameron, brother-in-law of Governor Douglas, who had recently been appointed Judge of the new Supreme Court of Vancouver Island. See Scholefield and Howay, *British Columbia*, I, pp. 547-51; also "Correspondence with the Government of Vancouver Island, relative to the Appointment of Chief Justice Cameron," in *Papers Relating to Vancouver Island*, London, 1863, pp. 57-52.

British Columbia Historical Quarterly, Vol. VII, No. 3.

From - B. C. Historic Quarterly
July, 1943.

JANUARY

1854—Continued.

- We. 11 Brig "Archimedes" arrived in Port.² Showers of snow.
 Th. 12 Frost and snow.
 Fr. 13 Severe Frost.
 Sa. 14 One dwelling house finished. Mrs. Cooper gave birth to a female child.
 S. 15 Andrew Muir and Isabella Weir proclaimed for marriage.
 Mo. 16 Brig "Archimedes" sailed. Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed. James Wilson whole D. The Author whole.
 Tu. 17 John Hall dropped work. J. Instant whole Drunk.
 We. 18 John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D. James Stewart $\frac{3}{4}$ D. John Hall $\frac{3}{4}$ Drunk.
 Th. 19 Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived. Most severe frost.
 Fr. 20 Heavy fall of snow 18 inches deep.
 S. 22 Doctors child died.³
 Mo. 23 Governor Stevens arrived⁴ in Sloop "Sarah Stone."⁵
 Tu. 24 Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed Nisqually.
 We. 25 J. Hall removed to the Fort. J. Downie removed to Hall's house. P. Bartleman removed to the Farm.
 Th. 26 Tremendous frost lasted from the 12th instant.
 Fr. 27 Rain.
 Sa. 28 Sloop "Sarah Stone" sailed. Rain.
 S. 29 Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived from Nisqually with fresh meat. Brig "Recovery" sailed Sandwich Island.
 Mo. 30 Monthly Ration Pay due and settled. J. Wilson whole D. The Author whole Drunk.
 Tu. 31 Andrew Muir and Isabella Weir married.

FEBRUARY.

- We. 1 Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed Bellview Island and Nisqually. Frosty morning.
 Th. 2 Mr. Staines gained a law plea over Duet.⁶ Brig "Rose" visited Port.
 Fr. 3 Fresh Beef served out. Barque "Matilda" visited Esquimalt. Showers.

(2) This brig of 157 tons was engaged in the coal and lumber trades to San Francisco.

(3) The infant son of Dr. J. S. Helmcken, born October 29, 1853.

(4) On Governor Stevens's visit see Hazard Stevens, *The Life of Isaac Ingalls Stevens*, Boston and New York, 1900, I., pp. 416-18.

(5) This small American sloop plied regularly between Olympia, Bellingham Bay, and Victoria, carrying the mails.

(6) Emanuel Deuillet, who was fined and imprisoned for making off with a number of pigs belonging to the Rev. Robert Staines. See James Douglas to Archibald Barclay, November 3, 1854.

1854

1854—Continued.

FEBRUARY

- Sa. 4 Public Meeting held on the state of the Colony. Superscription set agoing in purpose to send Mr. Staines home, to lay the proceedings before the house of Parliament.⁷ God speed. Indians dropped work.
 Mo. 6 Quarters Pay due.
 Tu. 7 Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived from Nisqually with fresh meat.
 We. 8 James Downie $\frac{1}{2}$ Drunk.
 Th. 9 W. Veitch $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Enoch Morris $\frac{3}{4}$ D. J. Wilson $\frac{1}{2}$ D. Fresh beef served out. John Russel $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Peter Bartleman $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Sa. 11 Canadians put up a bught [?] for catching cattle.
 Mo. 13 More Indians started to work.
 Tu. 14 Showers of snow, Frosty. Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed San Francisco.
 We. 15 Canadians commenced to fence a field.
 Sa. 18 Showers.
 Mo. 20 John Instant whole Drunk.
 Tu. 21 Peter Bartleman $\frac{3}{4}$ D. "Cock Watt" and "Saucy Jack" arrived.
 We. 22 Barque "Fanny Major" sailed. Mr. Staines left for England on his important mission.
 Th. 23 Celebrated Baechanalian hunt.
 Fr. 24 John Russel $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Author almost whole [drunk].
 Sa. 25 Monthly Ration pay due, not settled, want of money. J. Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 S. 26 Schooner "Honolulu" arrived from San Francisco. J. Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. J. Whyte $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Rain.
 Mo. 27 William Veitch $\frac{3}{4}$ D. James Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Tu. 28 "Cock Watt" & "Saucy Jack" sailed, T. Reed and other two men escaped to America.
 MARCH.
 We. 1 Scientific meeting instituted. Schooner "Honolulu" sailed out of Port.
 Th. 2 Schooner "William Allen" arrived with a cargo of saved lumber.
 Fr. 3 John Russel $\frac{3}{4}$ D. James Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Sa. 4 Mrs. Yates gave birth to a female child. John Russel whole Drunk.
 S. 5 John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ Drunk. Schooner "William Allen" sailed.
 Tu. 7 More Indians started to work. Commenced to plough.

(7) Staines, although chaplain and schoolmaster for the Hudson's Bay Company, joined the anti-company faction in the Colony and agreed to return to England and present their grievances to the British Government. The vessel upon which he sailed, *Island Queen*, and Staines was returned to the port on February 7 and 8, 1854.

MARCH

- We. 8 Lecture on the pleasures of studying the sciences, by W. Veitch.
 Th. 9 One Sow ferried [farrowed]. Rain.
 Fr. 10 One field fenced in. Canadians dropped work. One Sow ferried.
 Sa. 11 Commenced to fence in the gardens. One Sow ferried.
 S. 12 Showers.
 Tu. 14 Mail came in.
 We. 15 Lecture on the discoveries of Optical science, by the Author.
 Fr. 17 Smiths dropped work for want of coals.
 Sa. 18 Mail came in.
 Mo. 20 Commenced to plant in the gardens.
 Tu. 21 John Russel & Peter Bartleman fought a battle. J. Russel $\frac{1}{2}$ D. S. B. "Beaver" sailed.
 We. 22 Rehearsal of Wilson's "Tales of the Borders," by James Downie. Peas Sown.
 Th. 23 Smiths commenced to work. Steam Boat "Beaver" arrived.
 Fr. 24 Mrs. Whyte gave birth to a male child.
 Sa. 25 Monthly Ration Pay due & settled. J. Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. W. Veitch $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Mo. 27 Wet Morning.
 Tu. 28 Mrs. Cornelius gave birth to a female child.
 We. 29 Lecture on the Nobility of man by James Deans. Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived from San Francisco, brought a Mail along with her.

[Entries for April and May, 1854, are missing in the original.]

JUNE.

- Fr. 2 Showers.
 Sa. 3 Six Sheep killed and divided.
 Mo. 5 One Bull drowned in the Rapids. Thunder showers. Pair of Horses started to work.
 Tu. 6 Smith-shop shut up. Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived.
 We. 7 Lecture on the Phases of the Moon by James Deans.
 Th. 8 Showers.
 S. 11 Thunder showers.
 Mo. 12 John Crittle and wife removed to Mr. Skinner's.⁸ Mail came in.
 We. 14 Lecture "from the flood to the times of Abraham," by James Wilson.
 Fr. 16 Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed Fraser's River.
 Sa. 17 Monthly Ration Pay due. The Author $\frac{1}{2}$ D. Showers.
 Mo. 19 Lime Avenue fenced in. Jack Humphrey started to work.

(8) That is, to one of the other farms of the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, of which Skinner was bailiff.

1854

DIARY OF ROBERT MELROSE.

203

1854—Continued.

JUNE

- Tu. 20 Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived from Fraser's River.⁹ Showers.
 We. 21 Lecture "on the propriety of Prayer." Barque "Thomasine" sailed Sandwich Islands.
 Th. 22 Showers.
 Fr. 23 Turnips sown.
 Sa. 24 Showers.
 S. 25 Drizzly Rain.
 Mo. 26 S. S. "Otter" sailed Fraser's River along with the Governor. Thomas Williams started to work. First Lime Kiln burnt off.
 Tu. 27 Mrs. Guthrie (Helen Fisher) died.
 We. 28 Lecture "on the wonders of civilization" by the Author. Peter Bartleman $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Mrs. McNeil gave birth to a male child.
 Th. 29 Showers.
 Fr. 30 Five sheep killed and divided. Wet day.
 JULY.
 Sa. 1 Public Sale of Horses at View Field farm. Mail came in.
 S. 2 James Jeal died.
 Tu. 4 Showers.
 We. 5 Tales of "Duncan Fraser, and the Seer's Cave" recited by James Downie.
 Th. 6 Licences for selling Grog granted 120¢ per Annum.
 Sa. 8 S. S. "Otter" arrived. The Late Mr. Staines' Farm Stock sold by Public Auction. Yankee Scow arrived from Bel-lingham Bay with sawn timber.
 Mo. 10 More Indians started to work.
 Tu. 11 J. Wilson whole D. Yankee Scow sailed Nisqually for Live Stock.
 We. 12 Lecture "who is the working man" by James Deans.
 Th. 13 Indians dropped work. Dick Williams, Hollains, and 7 Indians drowned.
 Fr. 14 Four Sheep killed and divided.
 Sa. 15 Monthly Ration Pay due. Brig "Cadboro" arrived. Turnips sown. S. S. "Otter" sailed.
 S. 16 Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived.
 Mo. 17 Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed. Commenced to mow.
 Tu. 18 Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived.
 We. 19 Lecture from the times of Abraham, to the glory of the Roman Empire, by J. Wilson.
 Fr. 21 Mail came in.
 Mo. 24 Very warm weather.

(9) Mended in 1854, from Fort Langley.

1854—Continued.

JULY

- We. 26 Lecture on the duty and advantage of Prayer, by William Veitch.
- Th. 27 Mail came in.
- Fr. 28 Four Sheep killed and divided. John Instant whole D. James Downie $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
- Sa. 29 Yankee Scow arrived with sheep & cattle from Nisqually. James Wilson whole D.
- Mo. 31 Turnips thinned.
- AUGUST.
- Tu. 1 Commenced to shear.
- We. 2 Lecture on the Earths Diameter, Circumference, Revolution &c by the Author.
- Th. 3 Cattle Shed put up. James Whyte $\frac{1}{2}$ D. Magistrates declared by Government.¹⁰
- Fr. 4 Quarters Pay due. Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed. One sheep killed.
- S. 6 Schooner "Honolulu" arrived from San Francisco.
- Mo. 7 Mrs. Liddle gave birth to a female child.
- Tu. 8 Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived. Barn Yard fenced in.
- We. 9 Description of the River Jordan by James Deans. Brick kiln burnt off. Showers.
- Fr. 11 2nd Lime Kiln burnt off. Schooner "Honolulu" sailed.
- Sa. 12 6 Sheep killed & divided. John Instant whole D. The Author $\frac{1}{2}$ D. Monthly Ration Pay due.
- Mo. 14 Colonial Roads commenced to make.¹¹
- We. 16 Tales of the "Just Retribution," and the "Young Laird of Towstielaw," recited by J. Downie.
- Th. 17 James Whyte $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
- Fr. 18 Wet day.
- Sa. 19 Indians dropped work. Mail came in.
- S. 20 John Instant whole D. Duncan Lidgate $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
- Mo. 21 Gideon and his Gang commenced to build a School, and School-house.¹²
- Tu. 22 James Wilson $\frac{1}{2}$ D. The Author $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
- We. 23 Lecture on the "Immortality of the Soul," by James Wilson.
- Th. 24 Showers. One Sow killed.
- Fr. 25 Two Swine killed.
- Sa. 26 Brig "Cadboro" arrived from Coal Mines.

(10) The meaning of this entry is not clear. It would seem to refer to the appointment of magistrates, but no such appointments were made by Governor Douglas at this time. Kenneth McKenzie, Thomas Skinner, E. E. Langford, and Thomas Blinkhorn had all been appointed in March, 1853; John Muir, of Sooke, was not appointed until September, 1854.

(11) Construction of the road to Sooke commenced at this time.

(12) The original Craigflower school. The building is still standing, and is now a museum.

1854—Continued.

AUGUST

- S. 27 Thunder, lightning, and rain.
- Mo. 28 More Indians started to work.
- Tu. 29 New Forge put up.
- We. 30 Lecture on the "Atmosphere," by William Veitch.
- Th. 31 Brig "Cadboro" sailed Coal Mines.

SEPTEMBER.

- Fr. 1 John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D. One Sow killed.
- Mo. 4 Showers. Bombardment of Petropaulski in Kamtschatka.
- Tu. 5 Harvest completed.
- We. 6 Geographical description of England, by the Author. Brig "Rose" arrived from Coal Mines.
- Th. 7 Our Honourable Court attempting to try Captain Mills.¹³
- Fr. 8 Barque "Prince Albert" arrived from England.
- Sa. 9 Monthly Ration Pay due. P. Bartleman $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Four sheep killed & divided.
- S. 10 John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Thomas Williams $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Jack Humphrey $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
- Mo. 11 Carpenters Shop put up. Mail came in.
- Tu. 12 Captain Mills released from prison.
- We. 13 Tales of the "Young Laird of Ryeon & Brunsfield Links" recited by James Downie.
- Sa. 16 S. Steamer "Otter" sailed San Francisco. American S. Frigate "Active" visited Port. John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
- Mo. 18 Steam Boat "Major Tompkins" commenced to run the Mail between Victoria and Olympia every week.¹⁵

(13) John Powell Mills, master of the barque *Colinda*. The story behind this case is a complicated one. The *Colinda*, under charter to the Hudson's Bay Company, sailed from London with a cargo of supplies and 212 passengers, and Mills was instructed to proceed direct to Vancouver Island. Instead of doing so he put into Valdivia, in consequence, as he asserted, of a mutiny of the passengers. At Valparaiso the passengers were brought to trial before Admiral Moresby, Commander in Chief, Pacific Station, for "mutinous and piratical conduct," but were acquitted of the charge. While in Valparaiso, Captain Mills sold a large portion of the *Colinda's* cargo, despite the fact that it was the property of the Hudson's Bay Company. As a result of Mills's conduct, all but seventeen of the passengers refused further passage in the ship, which eventually reached Vancouver Island in April, 1854. Upon the non-delivery of her passengers and cargo the Hudson's Bay Company applied for redress to the Vice-Admiralty Court of Vancouver Island, and obtained an injunction against the ship, which was in due course made over to the Company's representative for adjustment of the claims. Governor Douglas subsequently received a Power of Attorney from James T. Muir, of London, owner of the *Colinda*, placed a new captain in command, supplied him with capital, and arranged a charter for the ship. She sailed from Victoria on March 15, 1855, for San Francisco, and made a landing at Seattle.

(14) A supply ship for the Hudson's Bay Company.

(15) This ship was built in the Admiralty in 1857, was the *Major Tompkins*, and was the first of a class of ships built for the Hudson's Bay Company.

1854—Continued.

SEPTEMBER

- Tu. 19 Turning Lathe put up.
 We. 20 Geneological description of the Anglo-Saxon race, by James Deans.
 Sa. 23 School-house frame erected,¹⁶ whole company in general notoriously drunk.
 S. 24 Brig "Cadboro" arrived from Nanaimo.
 Mo. 25 John Instant whole D.
 Tu. 26 Do. do. do. Showers.
 We. 27 Lecture "on the immortality of the soul," continued, by James Wilson.
 Th. 28 American Steam Frigate "Active" visited Port. Showers.
 Fr. 29 One Cow killed. Brig. "Cadboro" sailed Nanaimo.
 Sa. 30 Barque "Prince Albert" sailed Nanaimo. Duncan Lidgate $\frac{1}{2}$ D.

OCTOBER.

- S. 1 Showers.
 Tu. 3 H.M.S.'s "President," 50 Guns, "Pique," 42, & Steam Frigate "Virago," 6, arrived from an unsuccessful attack upon Petropuliski, in Kamtschatke.¹⁷
 We. 4 Lecture "on the pressure of the Atmosphere," continued by William Veitch.
 Th. 5 Captured Russian Transport ship "Sitka" arrived. S. F. "Virago" sailed Nanaimo.¹⁸
 Fr. 6 Mr. McKenzie's vent put up. Jack Humphrey, & Thom Williams dropped work.
 Sa. 7 Monthly Ration Pay due. J. Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. James Downie $\frac{1}{2}$ D. Will. Veitch $\frac{1}{2}$ D. Frosty.
 S. 8 Mr. McKenzie, J. Whyte, J. Downie, J. Liddle, & the Author's children baptized by the Chaplain of the "Pique."
 Sermon preached by the Chaplain of the "Pique."

(16) The Craigflower school is meant.

(17) The Crimean War was in progress at this time. The attack on Petropavlovski took place in September, 1854. On this action, and the movements of naval craft noted in subsequent entries, see "Correspondence relating to the establishment of a naval base at Esquimalt," in this *Quarterly*, VI. (1942), pp. 277-96.

(18) Melrose himself gives this note elsewhere in his diary: "When leaving the port, and a short distance outside, the steamer 'Virago' captured a Russian schooner, and after taking every thing out of her, set her on fire, shortly after a Russian merchantman, the 'Sitka' of 800 tons 10 guns, with a crew of 35 men, and 20 passengers, was taken by the 'President' her cargo chiefly gunpowder, is valued at 40,000£, sterling."

1943

1854—Continued.

OCTOBER

- Mo. 9 Dinner given to the Governor on board the "President."
 Tu. 10 Wet day.
 We. 11 Geographical description of Scotland, and Ireland by the Author.
 Th. 12 S. S. "Otter" arrived from San Francisco. Brig "San Francisco" sailed.
 Sa. 14 Steam Frigate "Virago" arrived from Nanaimo. "Yankee Scow" arrived from Bellingham Bay.
 S. 15 Transport Ship "Sitka" 10 guns sailed San Francisco. Sermon by the Chaplain of the "President."
 Mo. 16 Frigates, "President," and "Pique" sailed San Francisco.
 We. 18 Harry Teasdale the smuggler of Embleton, recited by James Downie.
 Th. 19 John Instant whole D.
 Fr. 20 Four Swine killed. Jo. Instant whole D.
 S. 22 Steam Frigate "Virago" sailed San Francisco.
 Tu. 24 Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed Fort Simpson.
 We. 25 Geographical, and Political view of Vancouvers Island, by James Deans.
 Th. 26 One working bullock died.
 Fr. 27 Frequent showers.
 Sa. 28 Brig "Rose" arrived from San Francisco.
 S. 29 Duncan Lidgate whole D.
 Mo. 30 John Instant whole D.

NOVEMBER.

- We. 1 Lecture on the resurrection of the body, by James Wilson.
 Th. 2 Two more vents put up. Provision Store, & Slaughter house finished.
 Fr. 3 One Bullock killed. Monthly Ration Pay settled.
 Sa. 4 Steam Boat "Beaver" arrived from her trading expedition. Quarters pay due.
 S. 5 Duncan Lidgate whole D. J. Wilson $\frac{1}{2}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Mo. 6 Wheat sown.
 We. 8 Geographical description of Sweden and Norway, by the Author.
 Fr. 10 New Wharf erected. Drizzly rain.
 Mo. 13 J. Wilson whole D. J. Downie $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author whole D.
 Tu. 14 Duncan Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D. John Instant whole D.
 We. 15 Tales of "Lyol Lisle," & "Raulin Roarin Willie," recited by James Downie.
 Th. 16 School vents finished.
 Fr. 17 One Cow killed.
 Sa. 18 Showers.
 S. 19 Barque "Prince Albert" arrived from Nanaimo. Wet day.

1854—Continued.

NOVEMBER.

- Mo. 20 James Tait paid his passage money. Rain.
 Tu. 21 Barque "Prince Albert" sailed for England. Rain.
 We. 22 Lecture from Romans 5 Ch. 19 V. by James Deans. Rain.
 Th. 23 Barque "Princess Royal" arrived from England with Miners¹⁹ Rain.
 Sa. 25 S. Boat "Beaver" & Brig "Recovery" sailed Nanaimo with the Miners. Peter Bartleman $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Mo. 27 Rain.
 Tu. 28 Rain. One Sheep killed.
 We. 29 Lecture on the inventions of man by James Wilson. One Pig killed.

DECEMBER.

- Fr. 1 Screw Steamer "Otter," & Brig "Cadboro" arrived from Nanaimo.
 Sa. 2 Monthly Ration Pay due & settled. Two pigs killed. Frosty.
 S. 3 Frosty.
 Mo. 4 Ship "Mason" visited Port. Duncan Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Frosty.
 Tu. 5 Brig "Recovery" sailed Fraser's River. Frosty.
 We. 6 Geographical description of Denmark by the Author. James Stewart $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
 Th. 7 More cattle got for the farm.
 Fr. 8 Schoolmaster got a house.²⁰
 Sa. 9 James Wilson taking money for his Rations.
 Mo. 11 Rain.
 Tu. 12 Mr. McKenzie whole D.
 We. 13 Lecture on the Atmosphere by William Veitch.
 Th. 14 Rain.
 Fr. 15 One Sheep, and two Swine killed.
 Sa. 16 Celebrated feasts of Bacchus. John Russel taken money for his Rations.
 Mo. 18 Frosty.
 Tu. 19 Steam Boat "Beaver" sailed Nanaimo.
 We. 20 Tales of the "Cloth-Merchant of Selkirk," "Paddy gone to the West Indies" and "Mary-Martin," recited by James Downie.
 Th. 21 Slight rain.
 Fr. 22 Two Swine killed. Store broken into. Rain.
 Sa. 23 Rain.
 S. 24 Rain.

(19) Many of those on board are remembered as pioneer citizens of Nanaimo. See Barrie H. E. Gault, "First and Last Days of the *Princess Royal*," in this *Quarterly*, III. (1939), pp. 15-24.

(20) Charles Clarke, who arrived in the *Princess Royal* to be master of the new school at Craigflower.

1854—Continued.

DECEMBER

- Mo. 25 Christmas celebrated by Fiddling, dancing, singing, eating, and drinking. Rain. Brig "Recovery" arrived.
 Tu. 26 Rain. Scientific meeting postponed till after the daftdays.²¹
 We. 27 Rain.
 Th. 28 Rain.
 Fr. 29 Rain.
 Sa. 30 Monthly Ration Pay due and settled. Frosty.
 S. 31 Frosty. Steam Boat "Beaver" arrived.

1855.

JANUARY.

- Mo. 1 New Years day celebrated in a glorious Bacchanalian manner. Frosty.
 Tu. 2 Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived. Frosty. Mrs Porter gave birth to a female child.
 We. 3 Fall of snow. Frosty.
 Th. 4 Frosty.
 Fr. 5 Mrs Stewart gave birth to a male child. Frosty.
 Sa. 6 Yankee Scow arrived. Rain and Sleet.
 S. 7 Rain and snow.
 Mo. 8 Mr Clark taken up his school. Rain.
 Fr. 12 Brig "Rose" arrived from San Francisco. Frosty.
 Sa. 13 Barque "Princess Royal" sailed for England. J. Russel stopped taking money for his rations.
 We. 17 Brig "Recovery" sailed Sandwich Islands. Wet day.
 Th. 18 Showers of sleet and snow.
 Fr. 19 Another Bacchanalian spree held this evening. Showers.
 Sa. 20 Screw Steamer "Otter" sailed San Francisco.
 S. 21 Rain.
 Mo. 22 Rain.
 Tu. 23 Rain.
 We. 24 James Deans bought an Indian woman.
 Th. 25 Steam Boat "Beaver" sailed Belvieu. Rain and sleet.
 Sa. 27 Monthly Ration Pay due. S. Boat "Beaver" arrived.
 S. 28 Barque "Colinda" sailed Nanaimo.²² Walter Ross died.²³
 Mo. 29 James Deans divorced his Indian woman.
 We. 31 Brief review of ancient and modern Athens, by James Wilson.

(21) "The epithet of the Daft (mad) Days, applied to the season of the New Year in Scotland, indicates very expressively the spirit which characterizes the period in question." (Hansberry, *Book of Days*)

(22) A supply ship of the Hudson's Bay Company.

(23) Presumably the son of the late Chief Trader Charles Ross, of charge of Fort Vancouver, 1850-54.

FEBRUARY.

1855—Continued.

- Sa. 3 Rain.
 S. 4 George Jeal drowned in the arm.
 Mo. 5 Quarterly Pay due and settled.
 Tu. 6 Search made for George Jeal, not to be found. John Smith started to work.
 We. 7 Mrs Hume gave birth to a female child. Frosty. J. Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Th. 8 Mrs McAulay gave birth to a female child.
 Fr. 9 Rain.
 Sa. 10 Flying Showers. Steam Boat "Major Tompkins" wrecked on Mc Aulay's Point.
 Mo. 12 Showers.
 Tu. 13 William Veitch whole D. James Wilson whole D. The Author whole D.
 Th. 15 Old-Store weather-boarded.
 Fr. 16 Mrs Irving gave birth to a female child.
 Sa. 17 J. Wilson whole D. J. Downie $\frac{3}{4}$ D. J. Russel $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author whole D.
 Mo. 19 Wreck of the "Major Tompkins" towed into harbour. Frosty.
 Tu. 20 S.B. "Beaver" conveyed the crew and passengers of the "Major Tompkins" over to Port Townsend.
 We. 21 Frosty.
 Th. 22 Frosty.
 Fr. 23 School and school-house finished.²⁴ Pine-field fenced in.
 Sa. 24 Peter Bartleman dropped taking money for his rations. Mo[nthly]. Ra[tion]. Pay settled.
 S. 25 Frosty.
 Mo. 26 Chess commenced to put up the saw-mill frame. Frosty.
 We. 28 Fresh weather. Bridge over the Arm completed.
 MARCH.
 Th. 1 Wreck of the "Major Tompkins" sold by public auction.
 Fr. 2 Schoolmaster removed to his new house. S.S. "Otter" arrived from S. Francisco.
 Sa. 3 James Wilson dropped taking money for his Rations.
 Mo. 5 High wind and rain.
 Tu. 6 Showers. Steam Boat "Beaver" sailed Nanaimo.
 We. 7 Rain.
 Th. 8 "Major Tompkins's" bell hung at the end of the school.²⁵
 Fr. 9 George Jeal's body found.
 Sa. 10 S.S. "Otter," and Brig "Cadboro" sailed Nanaimo. Showers.
 S. 11 Schoolmaster started to preach.
 Mo. 12 Coroner's inquest held upon Jeal's body, buried also. Showers.

(24) The Craigflower school.

(25) Again the reference is to the Craigflower school.

1843

1855—Continued.

MARCH

- Tu. 13 Barque "Colinda," and Steam Boat "Beaver" arrived from Nanaimo.
 We. 14 Duncan Lidgate whole D. J. Instant whole D. The Author whole D.
 Fr. 16 Barque "Colinda" sailed San Francisco.
 S. 18 Frosty.
 Mo. 19 Mrs Helmkin gave birth to a female child.
 Tu. 20 Major Tompkins's Force-Pump placed on the well. Frosty mornings.
 We. 21 Steam Boat "Beaver" sailed Nanaimo along with the Governor.
 Th. 22 Yankee Scow arrived from Bellingham bay with sawed lumber for bridge.
 Fr. 23 S.B. "Beaver" arrived.
 Sa. 24 The Author dropped taking money for his rations. G. Geal's effects sold by auction.
 S. 25 Mrs Wilson gave birth to a still born female child.
 Mo. 26 Mrs Wilson's child buried. Commenced to sow.
 Tu. 27 Mr McKenzie laid seige to Peter Bartleman's castle and destroyed it.²⁶
 We. 28 Peter Bartleman stricken work.
 Th. 29 Yankee Scow sailed Soack, with the Major Tompkins's boiler and engine.²⁷
 Fr. 30 Slight rain.
 APRIL.
 S. 1 Ship "Marquis of Bute" arrived from England, brought a minister.²⁸ Showers.
 Mo. 2 Brig "Recovery" arrived from the Sandwich Islands.
 We. 4 Andrew Hume's son half-drowned.
 Th. 5 Quarters Session, Robert Porter imprisoned for six months. Rain.
 Fr. 6 Good Friday kept.
 Sa. 7 Brig "Rose" arrived from San Francisco.
 Mo. 9 John Smith dropped work.
 Tu. 10 Andrew Hume $\frac{3}{4}$ Drunk. Brig "Rose" sailed Nanaimo.
 Th. 12 Peter Bartleman sentenced to be sent home.
 Fr. 13 Screw Steamer "Otter" and Brig "Cadboro" arrived.
 Sa. 14 Frosty mornings.
 S. 15 John Instant whole D. Duncan Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D.

(26) The meaning of this entry is not clear.

(27) Soack is spelled Soack by Melrose throughout the diary. The engine and boiler had been purchased by John Melr, who installed them in his sawmill on Soack Bay.

(28) The Rev. Edward (later Bishop) Crocker, who succeeded Staines as chaplain for the Hudson's Bay Company.

1855—Continued.

APRIL

- Mo. 16 Duncan Lidgate whole D. John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Tu. 17 Steam B. "Beaver" sailed on her trading expedition. Fifteen Indians drowned by the upsetting of a canoe. Slight rain.
 We. 18 House for Brick Machine put up.
 Th. 19 James Tait engaged again with Mr. McKenzie.
 Fr. 20 S. S. "Otter" arrived from Bellevue with sheep.
 Sa. 21 J. Tait started to work. Rev. E. Cridge paid us a visit. Showers.
 Mo. 23 Frosty mornings.
 We. 25 Blue Grouse served out.
 Fr. 27 W. Veitch whole D. J. Wilson whole D. J. Downie $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Sa. 28 The Author whole D.
 Mo. 30 John Instant whole D.

MAY.

- Tu. 1 Mrs. Clark gave birth to a female child. Mr. McKenzie and J. Downie trying a wrestle.
 We. 2 Two Private houses put up. Saw mill frame raised. J. Downie stricken work.
 Th. 3 Brig "Recovery" arrived from Frasers River. The Author whole D.
 Fr. 4 Barn frame raised. John Smith started to work. Quar. Pay due & settled.
 Sa. 5 Screw Steamer "Otter" arrived from Nanaimo.
 Tu. 8 S. S. "Otter" sailed Fraser's River. Showers.
 Fr. 11 Brig "Recovery" sailed Sandwich Islands.
 Sa. 12 Eight Sheep killed and divided.
 Mo. 14 Slight rain.
 Th. 17 Duncan Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D. John Russel $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
 Fr. 18 Peter Bartleman removed to his own house. S. S. "Otter" arrived.
 S. 20 Carpenters Shop went on fire, but extinguished without much damage.
 Tu. 22 S. S. "Otter" sailed Nisqually for sheep. James Lidgate removed to P. Bartleman's house.
 Th. 24 Mrs. Deans gave birth to a female child.
 Victoria Races celebrated on Beacon hill. D. Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D. J. Instant $\frac{1}{2}$ D. James Tait whole D.
 Sa. 26 Eight Sheep killed & divided. S. S. "Otter" arrived from Nisqually with 700 Sheep.
 Mo. 28 James Deans put on for a Shepherd.
 Tu. 29 James Downie warned out of his house.
 We. 30 Ship "Marquis of Bute" sailed.
 Th. 31 Thom Bates started to work. Mrs. Capt. Muat [Muat] gave birth to a male child.

1855—Continued.

JUNE.

- Fr. 1 Grand Picnic held on Esquimalt Bay in honour of Mr. Douglas's son's birth-day.
 Sa. 2 James Downie, wife, and family removed to Mr. Skinner's farm.
 Mo. 4 James Stewart and Andrew Hume's children baptized by the Rev. E. Cridge.
 We. 6 Grand Picnic held at Soack. Warm weather.
 Th. 7 John Smith dropped work. Steamer "Water Lilly" visited Port with a batch of Yankees on a pleasure excursion.
 Fr. 8 Court postponed owing to the Pic Nic.
 Sa. 9 Six Sheep killed and divided.
 S. 10 Mrs. Clark died.
 Mo. 11 Mrs. Clark opened. J. Whyte removed to a new house. John Hall removed with his house here.
 Batch of Defaulters fined. J. Stewart whole D. J. Tait whole D. J. Wilson $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
 Tu. 12 Saw Mill Shed went in fire little damage done.
 We. 13 Mrs. Clark buried.
 Th. 14 S. S. "Otter" sailed Nisqually.
 Fr. 15 Refreshing rain.
 Sa. 16 John Instant removed to J. Whyte's house. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D. J. Wilson $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
 Mo. 18 Clay Mill erected.
 We. 20 Bob Brown, and Harry Dame started to work.
 Th. 21 Screw S. "Otter" arrived from Nisqually with cattle.
 Sa. 23 Six Sheep killed and divided. Yankee Snow arrived.
 Mo. 25 James Smith and the late James Geal's widow married.
 Tu. 26 Census of the Island taken.³⁰ Refreshing Showers.
 We. 27 Showers.
 Th. 28 S. S. "Otter" sailed Frasers River.
 Fr. 29 Mrs. Veitch gave birth to a male child.
 JULY.
 Tu. 3 One Lamb killed. Engine going night and day scarcity of flour.
 We. 4 James Wilson removed to a new house.
 Th. 5 Licence for selling Grog granted 120£ per annum. Justice vanished, larceny.
 Fr. 6 One Bullock killed. Refreshing Showers. S. S. "Otter" arrived from Fr's. River.
 Sa. 7 Fresh meat served out.

(26) This 40-foot sidewheel steamer was intended to replace the wrecked *Major Tompkins* on the Puget Sound mail run, but proved too small and frail. She was built in San Francisco and brought north on the deck of a ship.

For this entry see this *Quarterly*, IV, 119-121, 1903-04.

1855—Continued.

JULY

- Mo. 9 Schooner "Agnes" fitted up.
 Tu. 10 Remarkable warm weather.
 We. 11 John Instant whole D. James Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Th. 12 Duncan Lidgate whole D. John Russell whole D. The Author whole D.
 Fr. 13 Mr. Parson opened his Public house with a grand spree.
 S. 15 Mrs. Greenwood gave birth to a male child.
 We. 18 Mr. McKenzie bought the Schooner "Black Duck."
 Th. 19 H.M.s Steam Frigate "Brisk" 16 guns arrived from Petropaulovski and Sitka.
 Fr. 20 Brig "Recovery" arrived from Sandwich Islands. George Greenwood engaged with Mr. McKenzie to sail the "Blackduck."
 Sa. 21 Four Sheep killed and divided. James Tait dropped work.
 S. 22 One Sheep killed.
 Mo. 23 James Tait $\frac{3}{4}$ D. D. Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Tu. 24 H.M.s S. "Dido" 18 guns arrived from Petropaulovski and Sitka.
 We. 25 Mrs. Yates gave birth to a female child.
 Th. 26 One Lamb killed.
 Fr. 27 One Sheep killed.
 Sa. 28 Mr. Clark's School Examination held on a Royal scale.
 Mo. 30 James Tait removed to Victoria. George Greenwood removed to Farm. Commenced to harvest. American Steam Frigate "Active" arrived in Port.
 AUGUST.
 We. 1 Chief Engineer of H. M.s S. "Brisk" died.
 Fr. 3 American Steam Frigate "Active" sailed.
 Sa. 4 Five Sheep killed and divided. Well sunk 27 feet deep. Quarters Pay due.
 S. 5 One Marine belonging to the "Brisk" drowned in Esquimalt Harbour.
 Mo. 6 H. M.s S. "Dido" sailed for San Francisco. The "Black Duck" launched.
 Tu. 7 S. S. "Otter" sailed San Francisco. John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D. James Liddle $\frac{3}{4}$ D. H. M.s S. S. Frigate "Brisk" sailed San Francisco.
 Th. 9 Bob Brown dropped work.
 Fr. 10 Duncan Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Sa. 11 One Sheep killed. Foggy mornings. The "Black Duck" named "Jessie."
 S. 12 John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Tu. 14 Brig "Recovery" sailed Sandwich Islands. Batteaux "Agnes" arrived.

1843

DIARY OF ROBERT MELROSE.

1855—Continued.

AUGUST

- We. 15 One Sheep killed. Batteaux "Agnes" sailed Fraser's River. Mrs. Anderson gave birth to a female child.
 Th. 16 Mr. Clark's juvenile Pic Nic celebrated on Esquimalt Bay.
 Fr. 17 One Bullock killed.
 Sa. 18 Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Barr breaking the peace.
 Mo. 20 Great Batch off to the gold-digging.
 Tu. 21 H. M.s S. "Trincomalee" 26 guns arrived at Soack.
 We. 22 Extraordinary warm.
 Fr. 24 One Bullock killed.
 Sa. 25 H. M.s S. "Trincomalee" arrived in Esquimalt Bay. Duncan Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 S. 26 S. S. "Otter" arrived from San Francisco.
 Mo. 27 H. M.s S. "Monarch" 84 guns arrived from San Francisco.
 Tu. 28 Showers.
 We. 29 One Bullock killed "Monarch."
 Th. 30 Two do's do. Batteaux "Agness" arrived with salmon.
 Fr. 31 Do. do. do.
 SEPTEMBER.
 Sa. 1 Four Bullocks killed for H.M.S. "Monarch."
 S. 2 Heavy showers.
 Mo. 3 Five Bullocks killed for H.M.S. "Monarch" & Cargo of sheep.
 Tu. 4 Six do do do. S. S. "Otter" sailed Nisqually.
 We. 5 William Veitch and George Greenwood's children baptized by the Chaplain of the "Monarch."
 Th. 6 H.M.S. "Monarch" sailed San Francisco. Bob Brown started to work.
 Fr. 7 One Bullock killed.
 Mo. 10 James Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Tu. 11 S. S. "Otter" arrived. Schooner "Jessie" arrived. One Bullock killed "Trincomalee." J. Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. J. Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D. John Hall dropped work.
 Th. 13 Batteaux "Agnes" arrived. One Bullock killed "Trincomalee." Will Stephens engaged with Mr. McKenzie.
 Fr. 14 One Bullock killed "Trincomalee." Showers.
 Sa. 15 O. do do & Two Sheep do. S. S. "Otter" sailed Nisqually. Showers.
 Mo. 17 John Hall removed to Victoria. Mrs. Simpson gave birth to a male child.
 We. 19 John Hall removed to J. Hall's house. Showers. One Sheep killed.
 Th. 20 One Sheep killed.
 Fr. 21 Two Bullocks killed. S. S. "Otter" arrived.

1855—Continued.

SEPTEMBER

Sa. 22 John Vine engaged with Mr. McKenzie.
 S. 23 Heavy showers Thunder and lightning.
 Mo. 24 Three Sheep and one Bullock killed. Showers. Schooner "Jessie" sailed.
 Tu. 25 Great Ball held at the Naval Hospitals.³¹
 We. 26 Grand Theatrical opera celebrated at the Hospitals. Showers.
 Fr. 28 Five Sheep killed. Dozen sent on board the "Trincomalee."
 Sa. 29 H.M.S. "President" 50 guns arrived.
 S. 30 H.M.S. "Trincomalee" sailed San Francisco.

OCTOBER.

Mo. 1 One Bullock killed "President." Showers.
 Tu. 2 do. do. do. Schooner "Jessie" arrived.
 We. 3 do. do. do.
 Th. 4 do. do. do. Harvest completed.
 Fr. 5 One Bullock to be killed every day for the "President" a sheep now and then.
 Sa. 6 Four Sheep killed and divided. J. Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. D. Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Mo. 8 Bob Brown dropped work.
 We. 10 Showers.
 Th. 11 James Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Will Veitch $\frac{1}{2}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Fr. 12 George Greenwood and Andrew Hume fighting. Showers.
 Sa. 13 Horse-races celebrated on Beacon-Hill. Fresh Beef served out.
 S. 14 William Stephens $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Tu. 16 John Instant whole D. Duncan Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 We. 17 Schooner "Jessie" sailed.
 Th. 18 Brig "Recovery" arrived from the Sandwich Islands.
 Fr. 19 Showers.
 Sa. 20 Heavy rain. Fresh Beef served out. Schooner "Jessie" arrived with potatoes.
 S. 21 John Vine $\frac{3}{4}$ D. William Stephens $\frac{1}{2}$ D.
 We. 24 High wind with heavy rain.
 Th. 25 Schooner "Jessie" sailed Theatrical Play and Ball held on board H. M. S. "President."
 Sa. 27 Fresh Beef served out. Showers.
 S. 28 S. S. "Otter" arrived from Fort Simpson. 7 Children baptized on board the "President."
 Mo. 29 H. M. S. "President" sailed San Francisco. D. Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Frosty.

(31) A naval hospital, consisting of three buildings, was erected at Esquimaux in 1855. See "Correspondence relating to the establishment of a naval base at Esquimaux," in this *Quarterly*, VI. (1942), pp. 277-96.

1855—Continued.

OCTOBER

Tu. 30 Schooner "Jessie" arrived with potatoes.
 We. 31 Schooner "Jessie" sailed Soack.

NOVEMBER.

Th. 1 Mr Longford's³² men completed their five years engagement. Frosty.
 Fr. 2 One Bullock killed.
 Sa. 3 Fresh meat served out. Schooner "Jessie" arrived.
 S. 4 American Steamer "Water Lilly" arrived in Port.
 Mo. 5 Quarters Pay due. Showers.
 Tu. 6 Schooner "Jessie" sailed Nanaimo with sheep.
 We. 7 High wind and rain.
 Th. 8 John Russel $\frac{3}{4}$ D. The Author $\frac{3}{4}$ D. One Bullock killed.
 Fr. 9 High wind.
 Sa. 10 J. Wilson $\frac{3}{4}$ D. W. Veitch $\frac{1}{2}$ D. The Author whole D. Brick kiln burnt off.
 Mo. 12 Harry Dane dropped work.
 Tu. 13 Schooner "Jessie" arrived from Nanaimo with coals.
 Th. 15 John Instant whole D.
 Fr. 16 S. S. "Otter" and Brig "Recovery" arrived from Fraser's River.
 Sa. 17 Fresh Mutton served out.
 S. 18 Heavy rain. Revd E. Cridge performed divine service at Craigflower.
 Tu. 20 S. S. "Otter" sailed Nisqually. Frosty.
 Fr. 23 One Bullock killed.
 Sa. 24 Brig "Recovery" sailed Sandwich Islands.
 Mo. 26 Heavy rain.
 Tu. 27 S. S. "Otter" arrived Nisqually.
 We. 28 High wind and heavy rain.
 Th. 29 Heavy rain. Tremendous roll of thunder six o'clock evening.

DECEMBER.

S. 2 John Instant $\frac{3}{4}$ D. Thom Bate's wife died.
 Mo. 3 Mrs Abernethy gave birth to a still-born male child.
 Tu. 4 Meeting held to form a Christmas ball. Rain.
 We. 5 Highwind.
 Th. 6 Steam Boat "Beaver" arrived from her trading expedition.
 Fr. 7 One Bullock killed.
 Sa. 8 Schooner "Alice" driven back by stress of weather.³³
 S. 9 Very wet day.

(32) Longford is dead.

(33) The little son of John Bate, aged 45 years, named by Captain James Cooper, was the first vessel registered at Victoria. She was built up from England in 1846.

1855—Continued.

DECEMBER

- Tu. 11 S. B. "Beaver" sailed Bellvue. Showers.
 We. 12 Showers.
 Th. 13 Showers.
 S. 16 Showers. John Vine $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Mo. 17 Barque "Princess Royal" arrived from England.
 Th. 20 Showers.
 Fr. 21 Frost and Snow. Six Sheep killed.
 Sa. 22 S. S. "Otter" sailed San Francisco. D. Lidgate $\frac{3}{4}$ D.
 Severe Frost.
 S. 23 Frosty.
 Mo. 24 Frost and snow.
 Tu. 25 Christmas Ball celebrated with great glee. Most severe frost.
 We. 26 High wind with keen frost.
 Th. 27 Very Frosty.
 Fr. 28 Frosty.
 S. 30 Still very Frosty.
 Mo. 31 Showers of snow.

(The concluding instalment of the diary will appear in
 an early issue of the *Quarterly*.)

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

BRITISH COLUMBIA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

VICTORIA SECTION.

A meeting of the Section was held in the Provincial Library on Tuesday, June 8. The Vice-Chairman, Mr. F. C. Green, presided. The speaker of the evening was Mr. Gerald E. Wellburn, well-known stamp collector and past president of the Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, who spoke on *The History of Victoria from a Stamp Collector's Viewpoint*. Mr. Wellburn is an authority on the postal history of the Province, and the knowledge and enthusiasm with which he dealt with his topic made his address of absorbing interest. The stamps issued in colonial days are now difficult to obtain, and the speaker hazarded the opinion that not more than half a dozen collectors in the world possess complete sets. Fortunately, one of these sets is in the Provincial Archives. Mr. Wellburn stressed the close connection that naturally exists between the development of transportation and the history of stamps and letter-carrying systems of various kinds, and he briefly traced these developments from the time when a letter destined for Victoria travelled by sailing ship via Cape Horn, a distance of 12,500 miles, to the present time, when a Trans-Canada Airways plane can carry a letter from New York to Victoria in a single day. The address was illustrated with views of interesting and valuable letters, stamps, and covers, the originals of many of which are in Mr. Wellburn's personal collection.

A group of documents relating to the Naval Canteen and the Royal Naval Club at Esquimalt, received recently from the Naval authorities, was exhibited at the meeting and handed over to the Provincial Archives, to be added to the extensive files of Naval records already in the manuscript collection.

VANCOUVER SECTION.

The Section met in the Hotel Grosvenor on the evening of Tuesday, April 20. The President, Mr. A. G. Harvey, was in the chair. Mr. George Green, of Burnaby, spoke on *The Original Fort Langley*. Mr. Green has spent much time exploring both the old records relating to Fort Langley and the actual site upon which the original buildings of the post were erected in 1827. He dealt first with the reasons which prompted the Hudson's Bay Company to build a post on the Fraser River at so early a date, and described the operations carried on there, which included salmon-fishing and farming, as well as the usual trading of furs. He next explained why the Company decided to abandon the original site, and erected a new fort, somewhat higher up the Fraser, in 1829-40. Finally, Mr. Green described at length the interesting developments which took place at the old site in later years. When the gold-rush occurred in 1858, this site was hastily selected as a suitable location for the capital of the new colony that was coming into being on the Mainland. The city-to-be was named Burnaby and

British Columbia Historical Quarterly, Vol. VII, No. 2.